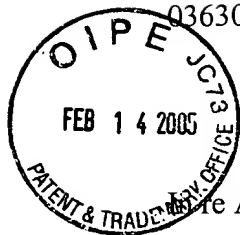


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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

GEORGE KOPPICH, et al.

Application No.: 09/357,585

Filed: July 20, 1999

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INTERNET SOURCES

Examiner: Iraj A. Rahimi

Group Art Unit: 2622

February 11, 2005

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Document (2) was originally published without an international search report, and a "Corrected Version", which includes the international search report, was published thereafter. A copy of both publications of document (2) is enclosed, together with a copy of document (1).

02/16/2005 AWOMDAF1 00000040 09357585

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(1) Europe 0 844 788

(2) PCT/WO 99/35753

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above-identified U.S. application. Enclosed is a copy of the European Search Report from the European Patent Office, in which these documents were cited, is dated December 23, 2004. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37

C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

This application has received a Notice Of Allowance under 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.311. Accordingly, this Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.97(d) and is accompanied by the \$180.00 fee specified at 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

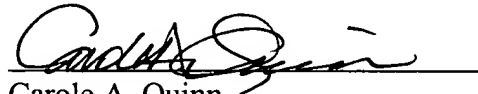
Consideration of the art cited herein is accordingly deemed proper, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention.

Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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